

# Exhibit L

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Counsel for Defendant LOPEZ MENERA

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

11 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, ) No. CR-07-653 SI  
12 Plaintiff, ) DECLARATION OF ABEL LOPEZ-  
13 vs. ) MENERA' IN SUPPORT OF MOTION TO  
14 ABEL LOPEZ-MENERA, ) DISMISS INDICTMENT  
15 Defendant. )

17 I, Abel Lopez-Menera, declare the following to be true under penalty of perjury;

18 1. I am the defendant in the above captioned case;

19 2. I came to the United States in 1989, when I was nineteen years old;

20 3. I met my common law wife in the United States. She is a United States citizen, and was a

21 United States citizen in 1997. We have three United States citizen children together;

22 Bessie Sanchez-Lopez, age 15; Abel Sanchez-Lopez, age 13, and Jose Andres Sanchez-

23 Lopez, age 11. Prior to my deportation, all of these children were living with me and my

24 common law wife, Rosa Sanchez. I was working a night job as a janitor to support them;

25 4. When I first came to the United States, I was nineteen years old, and I lived with some

26 cousins in Santa Rosa;

1 5. In Santa Rosa, where I've lived all my adult life, I worked in the fields and in  
 2 construction and landscaping;

3 6. In the middle of 1998, I remember getting some immigration papers. I asked for a  
 4 hearing and was brought before an Immigration Judge. I went before the judge in the  
 5 middle of a large group of men, and the judge spoke to us all together and individually;

6 7. At no time did the Immigration Judge, or any other immigration official, tell me that I had  
 7 the right to depart the country voluntarily. At no time was I told that I had the right to  
 8 seek bail. If I had been <sup>told CMF</sup> by the Immigration Judge that I could seek to depart on my own,  
 9 and that I would have had a much better chance of being able to return to the country  
 10 <sup>CMF</sup> legally and returning sooner, I would have done so. A family friend, Sally Diaz, would  
 11 have helped me with money to depart on my own. Also, my wife and kids, as well as  
 12 Sally Diaz, would have come to the court and assisted me to obtain bail;  
 13 8. I was told that I could not stop the deportation, that I had no way of fixing the situation,  
 14 and that there was nothing I could do except be deported.

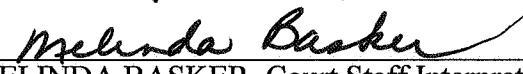
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16 Signed this the 16<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2007 in San Francisco, California

17   
 18 ABEL LOPEZ-MANERA

19 Translated orally from English into Spanish on November 16, 2007 in the presence of Mr.  
 20 Lopez-Manera in San Francisco, California.

21 Dated: 11/16/07

  
 22 MELINDA BASKER, Court Staff Interpreter